GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
DEFENCE
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:3292
ANSWERED ON:18.12.2015
Security Threats
Jardosh Smt. Darshana Vikram

Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has taken note of security threats to largest industrial hub of the country including Hazira which is located very near to sea-border of Pakistan;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether concerned officials of the Government have inspected this area within last three years and if so, the details thereof;

(d) whether the Government proposes to set up coast guard station at Hazira to meet any possible external threats; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

Answer

MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI MANOHAR PARRIKAR)

(a) & (b): Threat assessment is a part of existing coastal security construct. Based on the threat assessment, list of Vital Areas (VA) and Vital Points (VP) for each Coastal State including Gujarat have been prepared. The list of VA/VPs also covers major industrial establishments. Coast Guard stations at a particular place are established after taking into account the threat perception, vulnerability gap analysis and presence of other stations/coastal marine police stations in the vicinity. Further, Government has taken several measures to strengthen Coastal Security, which include enhanced patrolling and improved surveillance. Post interception of the suspect boat near International Maritime Boundary Line (IMBL) off Gujarat coast on 01-01-2015, Indian Coast Guard (ICG) has maintained strong presence in the area, through regular and continuous surface patrol and aerial surveillance, so as to deny any subsequent attempt by adversaries to enter our maritime zones.

Hazira is located approx 50 NM (i.e. 90 KM) deep inside the Gulf of Khambhat. The International Maritime Boundary Line (IMBL) with Pakistan sea border is approx 360 NM (i.e. 650 KM) from Hazira via sea route.

(c) Security audit of important industrial units is conducted by the concerned officials from time to time. In addition, the Coastal State Governments in consultation with the Coast Guard had conducted a vulnerability gap analysis to examine the requirement and identify location of Coastal Marine Police Stations to ensure seamless coverage of the entire coastline.

(d) & (e): Taking into consideration that Coastal Marine Police Stations at Hazira and Dahej have been established and the air assets at Coast Guard Air Station at Daman located 40 nautical miles south of Hazira are also available, if needed at short notice, it was decided not to set up a Coast Guard Station at Hazira at the moment.

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